

# HOUSE BILL No. 1606

---

## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 20-20-37.

**Synopsis:** Comer school development program. Creates the Comer school development program. Provides for the establishment of pilot programs to benefit at risk students at public schools having certain characteristics, and requires a pilot program to include professional development for teachers, curriculum development, and other elements. Establishes the school development pilot program fund to provide grants to enable participating school corporations to establish and operate pilot programs.

**Effective:** July 1, 2009.

---

---

**Harris**

---

---

January 16, 2009, read first time and referred to Committee on Education.

---

---

C  
o  
p  
y



First Regular Session 116th General Assembly (2009)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2008 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1606

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning education.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 20-20-37 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE  
2 AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2009]:

4 **Chapter 37. The Comer School Development Program and Fund**

5 **Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "fund" refers to the Comer**  
6 **school development program fund established by section 10 of this**  
7 **chapter.**

8 **Sec. 2. (a) There is established the Comer school development**  
9 **program.**

10 **(b) The Comer school development program shall target at risk**  
11 **students enrolled in schools that have the following characteristics:**

12 **(1) A public urban school.**

13 **(2) A public school in which:**

14 **(A) at least fifty percent (50%) of the students who were**  
15 **enrolled at that school building during the prior school**  
16 **year qualified for free or reduced price lunches under**  
17 **guidelines established under 42 U.S.C. 1758(b); and**



C  
o  
p  
y

(B) lunches are served to students.

(3) A public school in which at least ten percent (10%) of the teachers:

(A) hold a limited license to teach; or

(B) teach outside their licensed areas.

Sec. 3. The department may contract with a state educational institution located within the same county as a school described in section 2(b) of this chapter to establish pilot programs targeting schools with characteristics set forth in section 2(b) of this chapter.

Sec. 4. In establishing pilot programs under this chapter, the department, in collaboration with a state educational institution located within the same county as a school described in section 2(b) of this chapter, shall focus on implementing programs that enable the local school corporations, appropriate community agencies, nonprofit entities, and colleges and universities to cooperate with each other.

Sec. 5. A pilot program established under this chapter shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) Professional development for teachers.

(2) Curriculum development and oversight.

(3) Development of support systems that promote student learning and overall development.

(4) Community involvement.

(5) Significant matching funds from nonprofit entities or businesses.

(6) Parental participation.

Sec. 6. The department, in collaboration with a state educational institution located within the same county as a school described in section 2(b) of this chapter:

(1) shall select certain school corporations to participate in pilot programs established under this chapter; and

(2) may not select under subdivision (1) a school corporation that, on June 30, 2009, is already participating in a pilot program as described in section 5 of this chapter.

Sec. 7. A school corporation selected or seeking to be selected to participate in a pilot program under this chapter may enter into an agreement with a nonprofit entity, college, or university to provide services to the school corporation in connection with the pilot program.

Sec. 8. The department, in collaboration with a state educational institution located within the same county as a school described in section 2(b) of this chapter, shall develop guidelines necessary to

C  
o  
p  
y



1 implement this chapter.

2 Sec. 9. Each school corporation that participates in a pilot  
3 program under this chapter shall prepare a written report  
4 detailing all of the pertinent information concerning the  
5 implementation of the pilot program, including any:

6 (1) recommendations made as a result of; and

7 (2) conclusions drawn from;

8 the pilot program. The school corporation shall submit the report  
9 to the department.

10 Sec. 10. (a) The Comer school development program fund is  
11 established to provide grants to enable participating school  
12 corporations to establish and operate pilot programs under this  
13 chapter.

14 (b) The fund consists of the following:

15 (1) Gifts to the fund.

16 (2) Appropriations from the general assembly.

17 (3) Grants, including grants from private entities.

18 (4) Any combination of the resources described in  
19 subdivisions (1), (2), and (3).

20 (c) The department shall administer the fund.

21 (d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from  
22 money in the fund.

23 (e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not  
24 currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same  
25 manner as other public funds may be invested. The treasurer of  
26 state shall deposit in the fund the interest that accrues from the  
27 investment of the fund.

28 (f) Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not  
29 revert to the state general fund.

30 Sec. 11. (a) To be eligible for a grant under this chapter:

31 (1) a school corporation; or

32 (2) two (2) or more school corporations acting under a joint  
33 agreement;

34 must timely apply to the department for a grant on forms provided  
35 by the department.

36 (b) An applying school corporation must include at least the  
37 following information in the school corporation's application:

38 (1) A detailed description of the proposed pilot program  
39 format.

40 (2) The extent to which the applying school corporation  
41 intends to include appropriate community resources not  
42 directly affiliated with the applying school corporation in the

C  
o  
p  
y



1        **pilot program.**

2        **(3) A statement of and any supporting information concerning**  
3        **the need to establish the pilot program as perceived by the**  
4        **applying school corporation.**

5        **(4) The estimated cost of implementing the pilot program.**

6        **(5) Any other pertinent information required by the**  
7        **department, in collaboration with the state educational**  
8        **institution with which the department enters into a contract**  
9        **under section 3 of this chapter.**

10       **Sec. 12. This chapter expires June 30, 2014.**

**C**  
**O**  
**P**  
**Y**

